

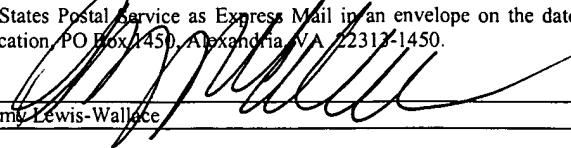


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February 17, 2004

Date


Amy Lewis-Wallace

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: §
Haberland et al. §

Serial No.: 10/763,762 § Art Unit:

Filed: 1/23/2004 § Examiner:

For: **TROCAR HAVING PLANAR FIXED
SEPTUM SEAL AND RELATED
METHODS** § Docket No. 032528.04

TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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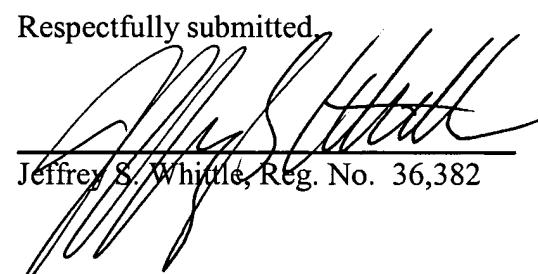
Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing are the following documents:

- Information Disclosure Statement with a copy of Cited References; and
- Postcard, which we would appreciate your date stamping and returning to us upon receipt.

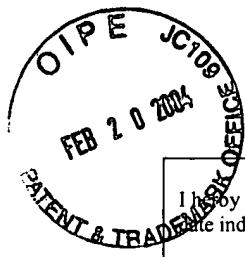
I hereby authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P.'s Deposit Account No. 50-0259 (Atty Docket 032528.04).

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey S. Whittle, Reg. No. 36,382

Date: February 17, 2004

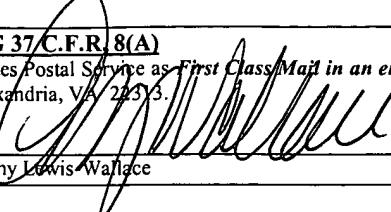
BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 61389
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(713) 221-1185
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 8(A)

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February 17, 2004
Date


Amy Lewis Wallace

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
Haberland) Confirmation No.:
Serial No.: 10/763,762)
Filed: 1/23/2004) Examiner:
For: **TROCAR HAVING PLANAR FIXED**) Group Art Unit:
SEPTUM SEAL AND RELATED) Attorney Docket No. 032528.04
METHODS)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

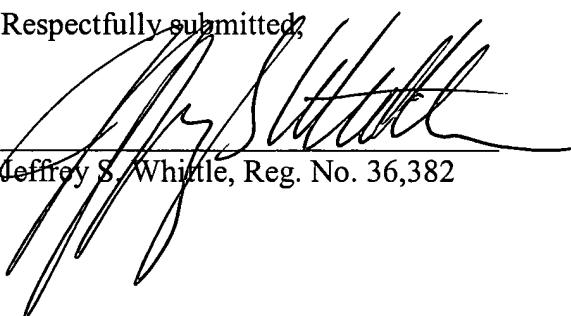
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Sir:

Attached is Form PTO-1449A listing several references for consideration in the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of each reference is also enclosed. It is requested that these references be considered by the Examiner and officially made of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the M.P.E.P.

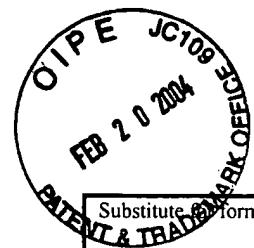
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before issuance of the first Office Action and therefore no fee is required. In the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P.'s Deposit Account No. 50-0259 (Attorney Docket No. 032528.04).

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey S. Whittle, Reg. No. 36,382

Date: February 17, 2004

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Substitute Form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number 032528.04

Complete if Known

Application Number 70/763,762

Filing Date 1/23/2004

First Named Inventor Haberland, et al.

Art Unit

Examiner Name

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials*	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
	Number- Kind Code (if known)			
	US-6,551,282	04-22-2003	Exline et al.	
	US-6,482,181	11-19-2002	Racenet et al.	
	US-6,432,085	08-13-2002	Stellon et al.	
	US-5,984,919	11-16-1999	Hilal et al.	
	US-5,803,919	09-08-1998	Hart et al.	
	US-5,782,812	07-21-1998	Hart et al.	
	US-5,709,664	01-20-1998	Vandenbroek et al.	
	US-5,651,771	07-29-1997	Tangherlini et al.	
	US-5,584,850	12-17-1996	Hart et al.	
	US-5,496,280	03-05-1996	Vandenbroek et al.	
	US-5,476,475	12-19-1995	Gadberry	
	US-5,443,452	08-22-1995	Hart et al.	
	US-5,385,553	01-31-1995	Hart et al.	
	US-5,344,420	09-06-1994	Hilal et al.	
	US-5,226,891	07-13-1993	Bushatz et al.	
	US-5,141,498	08-25-1992	Christian	

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	Applied Universal Seal Technology; January 1999	Y
	Applied Universal Seal Technology; January 1999	Y
	Genicon: Trocar and Cannula Systems; January 1999	Y
	Genicon: Modular Laparoscopic Instruments; January 1999	Y

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standards ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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